

Retirement

There is no mandatory retirement age for state employees. Membership in the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) is mandatory for most state employees and begins on the first day of employment. Mandatory contributions to PERS are tax deferred and may not be refunded for any reason until termination of covered employment. PERS provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to more than 27,000 state and local government and school district employees. In addition to PERS, the Public Employees' Retirement Administration (PERA) administers the Game Wardens' and Peace Officer's, Judges', Sheriffs', and Highway Patrol Officers' retirement systems.

The Montana Public Employee Retirement System handbook provides details about PERS. It's available from your agency's payroll staff, your personnel office, or PERA. To help you plan for retirement, PERA and the Professional Development Center jointly sponsor quarterly Pre-Retirement Planning workshops around the state. For more information about benefits available to you from your retirement system, write to PERA, 1712 Ninth Avenue, P.O. Box 200131, Helena, MT 59620-0131, or phone (406) 444-3154.